

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On environmental and other considerations, the Government of India gives due priority for use of natural gas and other forms of renewable energy sources for generation of power. Cooperation with Denmark in the power sector has so far been mainly in the field of Wind Power. However, some other areas of cooperation between India and Denmark being identified.

Import of Potato by Coca Cola

7214. SHRI RABIRAY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have given permission to Coca Cola Company to import potato; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b). Government have approved a joint venture proposal submitted by M/s. JMRPCO Limited, a company incorporated in Hongkong having NRI equity share holding of 60% and 40% share holding by M/s. Coca Cola South Asia Holdings, wholly owned subsidiary of the Coca Cola Company of USA with M/s. Britannia Industries Limited, Calcutta and Maharashtra State Government Agency for setting up a unit for manufacture of processed extruded snacks, processed nuts, stackable potato chips and non-alcoholic beverage bases/essences in a backward district of Maharashtra by setting up a new company to be known as BRITCO Foods Private Limited. The proposal envisages manufacture of stackable potato chips for which potato flakes shall be im-

ported under the 'Blanket Advance Licence Scheme'. the annual requirement of potato flakes range between 600-758 M/T during the first five years. According to the project report, 100% production of processed snack food nuts and stackable chips are to be exported.

Tuticorin Airport

7215. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state by when the new airport established at Tuticorin is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): After the issue of licence by the Director General of Civil Aviation, the aerodrome at Tuticorin will become operational.

Mangalore Power Project

7216. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRI C.P. MUDALA
GIRIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the environmental clearance for Super Thermal Power Projects, Stage-I mangalore has been accorded by the Union government recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Ministry of Environment & Forest (MOEF)

accorded environmental clearance for the Stage-I of the project in January, 1992 subject to certain conditions. One of the major conditions stipulated by MOEF is that the land for ash disposal be acquired by NTPC in an undisputed area which should not be good agricultural land and that the area at Yelluru, identified by NTPC should not be used for this purpose.

NTPC has clarified to MOEF that the Yelluru area cannot be considered as disputed as per our verdict and has requested MOEF to consider disposal of ash in Yelluru area as it is the optimal choice for disposal of ash both from environmental and techno-economic considerations. Further, no other undisputed area in the vicinity of the project for a technically feasible system can be located.

(c) The work on the project can start only after investment approval by Government and tying up for all the inputs.

[Translation]

Public telephone Connections in Gujarat

7217. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons register for public telephone connections in Gujarat distant-wise;

(b) the measures proposed to taken to meet their demand expeditiously;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide telephone facility in border and adverse areas; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Inclusion of various Hill Stations of Maharashtra on Tourist map of India

7218. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATILJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals for including Matheran Panchgani, Panhala, Chikhalar, Lonawala, Khandala and Mahabaleshwar hill stations of Maharashtra in the tourist map of India have been received by the Union government; and

(b) if so, the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The tourist map produced by the Central Department of Tourism include these places.

T.V. Relay Centres in Gujarat

7219. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangements were made to set up T.V. relay centres at Bharuch, Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Surat, Mandvi, Songarh, Dang and Balasar districts and Choota Udaipur, Naswandi and Nadod tribal areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the names of the other areas in the addition to the above, where the facility of T.V. relay centre was made available;

(c) whether T.V. relay centres are functioning properly at these places; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure their proper functioning?